

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4 ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER 61 FORSYTH STREET, SW ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

March 8, 2022

<u>URGENT LEGAL MATTER - PROMPT REPLY NECESSARY</u> VIA EMAIL TO: mg3400@mslandsales.com

HL&C – Cain's Corner, LLC c/o Mark Gibson, Manager Post Office Box 1 2001 U.S. Highway 11 North Picayune, Mississippi 39466

Re: Request for Information Pursuant to Section 104(e) of CERCLA for the

Stone Treated Materials Superfund Site in Picayune, Pearl River County, Mississippi

CERCLIS ID: MSN000403510, EPA Site ID: B45J

Dear Mr. Gibson:

The purpose of this letter is to gather information and documents relating to your company's acquisition and ownership of the property located at 402 Davis Street in Picayune, Mississippi, known to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as the Stone Treated Materials Superfund Site.

You may recall granting the EPA access to the site to conduct a removal action. The site used to be a wood treating facility, which was closed by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality due to violations of environmental regulations. From April 2019 to November 2019, the EPA conducted a removal action, where it removed contaminants from the site. Contaminated materials included: copper, chromium, and arsenic liquids; contaminated scrap metal; and soil and sludge resulting from the wood-preserving processes that used inorganic preservatives containing arsenic or chromium.

This request for information is being made pursuant to the authority granted to the EPA by Section 104 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), 42 U.S.C. § 9604, as amended.

In particular, the EPA is seeking information about your company's acquisition and ownership of the site to determine your company's status under CERCLA with respect to the site.

In the subsequent questions, the term "hazardous substance" shall have the same definition as that contained in Section 101(14) of CERCLA and applies to the hazardous substances that the EPA removed from the site. Please provide information about the following, including copies of any documents that illustrate your responses:

1. Identify the current owner and/or operator of the Site by setting forth, for each person or entity: (a) full name; (b) present or last known business address; and (c) telephone numbers.

- 2. State the dates during which the current owner and/or operator owned, operated or leased any portion of the Site, and provide copies of all documents evidencing or relating to such ownership, operation, lease(s) or transfer, including but not limited to purchase and sale agreements, deeds, leases, etc.
- 3. If your company is the current owner and/or current operator, did your company acquire or operate the Site or any portion of the Site after the disposal or placement of hazardous substances on, or at the Site? Describe all of the facts on which you base the answer to this question.
- 4. At the time your company acquired or operated the Site, did you know or have reason to know that any hazardous substance was disposed of on, or at the Site?
- 5. Describe all investigations of the Site you or your company undertook prior to acquiring the Site and all of the facts on which you base the answer to this question.

Your responses and documents may be provided in hard copy or electronically and should be sent to the attention of:

Leonardo Cerón
Enforcement Project Manager
Superfund Enforcement & Information Section
US EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
email: ceron.leonardo@epa.gov

Please note that compliance with this Information Request is mandatory. Failure to respond fully and truthfully to the Information Request within 30 days of receipt of this letter, or to adequately justify such failure to respond, can result in enforcement action by the EPA pursuant to Section 104(e) of CERCLA. This statute permits the EPA to seek penalties of up to sixty-two thousand, six hundred eighty-nine dollars (\$62,689) for each day of continued non-compliance. Please be further advised that provision of false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations to the Information Request may subject you to criminal penalties under 18 U.S.C. § 1001 or Section 3008(d) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928(d).

Please give this matter your immediate attention and respond to this Information Request within the time specified above. If you have any questions relating to this Information Request, please either contact Leonardo Cerón at (404) 562-9129 or ceron.leonardo@epa.gov, or contact me at (404) 562-9676 or haire.stacey@epa.gov.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

STACEY Digitally signed by STACEY HAIRE

Date: 2022.03.08
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Stacey A. Haire Senior Attorney Office of Regional Counsel